596 they have lived thus far. In the few cases
591 where this is done, eventually several brothers and their wives may live in adjoining kitchens and the economic enterprises of the family will be carried on as a unit under the direction of the father. In such cases a joint purse will be kept by the parents or one of the older brothers. All important activities will be subject of discussion and consultation, particularly such matters as buying or selling land, building a new house, etc. In time, the direction of affairs will pass to the younger men, usually the older brother directing and giving final decisions. The extent to which the father will be consulted as he grows old will depend in part on his individual merits.

593 More commonly a joint family will not be
591 established even though the son and his wife may remain living in the family residence. If the parents can afford it, they may give the son a lot or even a house and lot where he can live. Lacking parental aid, the son will do everything he can to acquire a new house and lot. Or his wife may own a house and lot which she has inherited and in which the couple will live.

593 Much the same situation will obtain regard-
423 ing farm lands. A father may give his son some farm lands when he has shown he is able
845 to manage his affairs properly. Or the son may work for others and save money to begin acquiring his own land. And in a considerable proportion of cases the wife will own lands which the husband will farm. In some cases, even though a joint family is not established, a son will take over management of the farm lands.

Lacking farm lands, the man will work for others as a laborer, become a trader going down to the hot country, work in the forest cutting ties, shakes, or lumber, or work at some trade if he knows one. In any case he may do some of these things on a part-time basis to supplement his income.

592 In addition to acquiring a house and lands,
●352 the couple needs to assemble the proper tools and furnishings. Although none of these are expensive, in the aggregate they require a bit of time, either to earn money to buy them or to make them. A census of the things found in a house, kitchen, and yard gives some idea of the amount of accumulation required.

592
352 Objects found in a house or "*troje*":

Sleeping mats
Small table
Chairs, either low chairs, regular size chairs, or stools, one for each man in the household and usually two or three for guests.
Serape, worn by the man during the day and serving as a blanket for man and wife at night. A second *serape* will often be found if there are children.
Chest, box, or trunk for extra clothes
Saint's picture
Candle and candle holder
Flower holder
Ladder for getting to loft
Gun (sometimes)
Cross beam suspended from the ceiling on which are hung clothing, blankets, etc.

Objects found in the kitchen:

592
4/5

Wooden hooks for hanging up "anything"
Stump and flat stone for burning pitch pine for light
Corn husk mats for holding up pots(at least three)
Large comal
3 "frying pans" of Patamban pottery for cooking meat
1 "frying pan" of Patamban pottery for cooking eggs
Several round and oblong wooden bowls
Grass-root pot brush
Atole strainer
4 cane splint baskets of various sizes
2 pottery jars
Broom for sweeping yard (of brush)
Broom for sweeping house (of broom straw)
Paring knife
Bowls of Quiroga ware or Guanajuato ware for serving broth and meat on special occasions
Charcoal-burning flat iron
Gourd canteens for use at harvest time or in woods
½ dozen china plates
½ dozen china cups
Tea pot
China bowls
½ dozen wooden spoons of various sizes
Tin can for dipper to fill water jars
Chocolate beater
Tortilla baskets
2 water ollas
1 small pitcher
5 large 2-handled pots
8 smaller 1-handled pots
Clay fireplace
Firefan
Small metate for chiles
Large metate for maize

[p. 194a]

592 Table
352 3 chairs (usually small low style)
Machete
415 ½ dozen spoons
2 table forks (rare)
1 table knife (rare)
1 can opener (rare)

Objects found in a lot:

412 Pear picker (if there is fruit on the lot)
592 Hollowed logs for water and feeding pigs
Smooth rock and wooden paddle for washing clothes
Wooden pitchfork
Wooden hook
Carrying crate with tumpline (occasional)
Frame for carrying water *ollas* on donkeyback (occasional)
Clay oven with shovel and broom (occasional)
Hoe

In addition to these items there are the tools of work to be acquired. A farmer needs a plow, yoke, goad, oxen, carrying nets, weeding machete, and perhaps other items. A forest worker needs an ax, a hafted blade for splitting shakes, a wooden mallet, oak wedges, a 2-man crosscut saw about 8 feet long, and an oil can (to oil the saw). A mason will need a trowel, hammer, sledge hammer, and string for guide and plumb lines. A traveling merchant will need burros, pack saddles, and halters.

291 Clothing must also be secured. The man will own *huaraches*, or sandals, two or three pairs of *calzones*, or cotton trousers, often a pair of overalls, a pair of shoes, shirts, knitted cotton undershirts, a blanket or poncho, belt, straw hat, straw or rubber raincoat, a rubber cover for the hat, and a Catholic amulet. In addition, many will own a jacket or coat and pair of trousers of "citified" style to wear when going to Uruapan.

The wife will need a skirt, petticoat, blouse, sashes, jacket, shawl or *rebozo*, bead ornaments, and shoes for special occasions. For working about the house she may have a few cheap cotton dresses of Mestizo style.

As children arrive, clothing must also be provided. Boys usually own *calzones* or cotton trousers with a strap fastening, straw hat, small blanket, shirt, sandals, and perhaps an amulet. Girls will have skirt, petticoat, blouse, jacket, sashes, *rebozo*, and sometimes shoes.

Not everyone will have the above things, but some will have more. The lists given are

HOUSE

FURNISHINGS

342 The terms "house," or "*troje*," and "*cocina*" as
343 employed in the Sierra refer to the construction
196 of the house rather than to its use. Normally, each family has a house and a kitchen. In the kitchen, the family cooks, eats, and sleeps. The house serves as a storage place for all types of property. In it also is kept the image of the family saint. Sometimes in place of a "*troje*," a "*cocina de torito*" is floored and used for storage. Despite this shift in use, the structure is still called a "*cocina*," or kitchen.

343 The "*troje*" contains a minimum of furnishings.
353 The loft is used purely for crop storage and usually
774 has no furnishings whatever. The lower floor

3:Beals, Carrasco & McCorkle E-5 (1940-1942) 1944
NU34 Tarasco NU34
Sierra Tarascans

HOUSE
FURNISHINGS

343
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778
generally has a table against the wall opposite the door upon which is placed the image of a saint, if the family owns or is carring for one. If not, a picture of a saint will be found behind the table on the wall. Usually, a variety of religious [353] pictures are tacked or pasted behind or around [373] the picture or image of the saint. Often candles and a pottery incense burner are on the table; in addition, the table may have a varying number of miscellaneous objects placed there temporarily for safekeeping. The ceiling, especially over the [353] altar table, may be decorated in colored tissue paper and strings of miniature household objects. Several wooden chairs with arms are kept in the

343 room, the number depending upon the economic
352 status of the family. They are rarely used except to seat visitors. Tin trunks or wooden chests are usually found for storage of clothing. Clothing may also be hung on a pole extending from front to back wall. A sewing machine is a fairly common item of equipment. Rather rarely, the room will contain a wooden bedstead; this again is used

[404]

[354]

FIGURE 15.—Fire hearth of stones. *a*, Space for pots; *b*, space for *comal*.

only for guests, when mats are spread over the bed. In emergencies, the room may also be used for the storage of harvests. A portion of the veranda may also be boarded for this purpose. The second floor is customarily used to store maize on the cob.

[p. 22a]

354 The kitchen always has a hearth on the ground, usually made with six stones (parángua), arranged as in figure 15. Infrequently, the hearth or stove is of clay (fig. 16). Space is provided for three fire places, one (fig. 15, *b*) for the *comal* or tortilla baking dish, and two (*a–a*) for cooking pots. This hearth is usually at one side of the structure.

[373] Near the fire a branched stick (čuríɣgu) is set in the ground; on this stick pitch-pine splinters (k'uerámu) are burned for light at night. At the back of the kitchen are one or two shelves,

415 "*tinajera*," (plátu jatákua). On the upper are

352 the old ollas and large vessels. On the bottom are new ollas (pureči), plates (plátu), jars (iɛ́amatarakua), wooden spoons (iozésa), and knives (kučó). Below the shelves on the ground, are the three-legged metates (iauári), *molcajetes* (jiúmatakua), *comales* (eróksa), and large water jugs (k'amúkua), including one set on a fiber ring (uanɛ́ari) containing drinking water. Also on the ground are baskets (ɛ́akiáta), tortilla baskets ("tascal," kuatása), and gourds (uzáni). Either on the floor or on the shelf may be wooden bowls (batieča), other types of baskets (ɛ́akiáta kanímu

[439] and šúndi, "*chúndi*"), and fire fans (p'unítatarakua). All the manufactured articles are imported.

352 The metate, when in use, is placed on a plank

[513] beside the fire. At night, it is removed and mats are spread out for sleeping.

[p. 22 b]

3:Beals, Carrasco & McCorkle E-5 (1940-1942)1944
NU34 Tarasco NU34
Sierra Tarascans
Pátzcuaro

352 are spread out for sleeping. The women sit on
516 the ground in kneeling position; the men either sit on their heels or on low wooden benches (burítu) or low chairs (uašánpakua). In Parícutin, Ihuatzio, and some other towns, the
[532] benches are carved in zoomorphic forms. Hanging from the roof may be a shingle or small board on which to place small objects (sársu, *sarzo*). One or more wooden hooks (tirípatarakua) may hang from the ceiling. These and other items are illustrated in figures 16 and 17.

415 Usually outside the house there is one or more wooden troughs used for water storage (fig. 18).

In the Lake region, the furniture is similar, but
352 the clear-cut distinction in the use of structures is
342 lacking. Often one room serves all purposes.
184 If a separate kitchen exists, it may be just a lean-to against a wall of the house, open, or with
354 adobe walls. The use of the raised fireplace,

[Continued on p. 246]

ECONOMICS OF THE TARASCAN HOUSE

THE LOT

435 Lot prices vary considerably in Cherán. At the present time, the tendency is to sell lots by front footage in the central area, but square meters (39.3 in.²) are sometimes used as a base for prices also. In the case of lower-priced lots, probably the price is not set in terms of any specific area or frontage, but is the subject of discussion and ultimate agreement. In general, lots (without buildings) which front on the main street were valued in 1940 at 25 pesos a meter (39.3 in.). On the outskirts of the town prices were about 10 to 12 pesos a meter (39.3 in.).

WOODEN HOUSES

COST OF MATERIALS

342 The following tabulation presents the cost of
435 those materials which ordinarily are purchased according to various estimates. Variations in price are partly due to differences in size and quality, partly to the bargaining skill of the buyer, partly to the need of the vender to sell.

	Price in pesos
Pine planks, per doz., f. o. b.:[1]	
Seven-*sarz* (6.44-m.) planks 15 inches wide, 3 inches thick, dozen	6. 60
Range of other estimates	7. 00–9. 00
Delivery charge, heavy planks, per dozen	7. 00

[1] Price is about the same for 1-inch planks, which are shorter and must be sawed, and long 2-inch planks, which are adzed.

[p. 24a]

322
[412]
[415]
[531]
[402]
[415]
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[291]

PLATE 12.—Woodwork. a, Ganging tools, Paracho. b, Wooden spoons and ladles, Paracho. c, Modern electrically powered lathe shop, Paracho. d, Turned objects made at Paracho. e, Cabinetmaker's shop in house lot, Cherán. f, Making umbrellas with the bow lathe, Paracho. g, Nest of wooden boxes, Cuanajo. h, Small (2 feet high) folding chair commonly made in Cuanajo. i, Metate made at Sirio.

[End-plate 13]